

News *from the* City of Gardner

A newsletter published for the residents of the City of Gardner
City Hall • 120 E. Main St. • Gardner, KS 66030 • 856-7535

January –February 2005

A Look Back at 2004 and What is Upcoming in 2005

Gardner started out 2004 with the goals of maintaining and improving current City services and infrastructure; planning for the future and implementing the plans; working to make growth in the community pay its own way; and maintaining a healthy financial structure for the community. Here are some of the many accomplishments for 2004 that were in keeping with the goals defined by the City Council.

Major improvement and expansion projects undertaken in 2004 include...

Electric Utility

The Electric line rehabilitation project for North Center Street was completed in 2004. This project replaced approximately one mile of aging lines and will improve reliability and serviceability.



Design work was completed for the transmission lines along the eastside of Moonlight Road from Main Street to 167th Street, north side of 167th Street from Moonlight Road to Waverly Road, and the east side of Waverly Road from 167th Street to the proposed new Substation No. 3. Major components have been purchased for the new substation, as have the poles and wires for the new transmission lines leading to the station. Land acquisition for the new substation is anticipated to happen early in 2005.

Creation of a new electric system map was approved and is being developed to accurately denote circuit routes, con-

ductors and transformer rates, major service drops and KCP&L interconnects to the system. This project will assist staff in better understanding load issues, mitigating potential safety issues, and helps in rerouting power in emergency situations.

Water Utility

Waterline replacement design work has been completed to replace 3,000 ft. of water pipe in several older neighborhoods. This project will improve water flow, reduce service interruptions and improve water quality in those areas of the community. Construction is scheduled for 2005.



The Water Facilities Master Plan was finished in June and will help guide the City in making decisions regarding these facilities to 2025. This study set the future service area for the system and recommends treatment, storage and distribution system improvements. The Hillsdale water treatment facility will undergo a planned expansion in 2005 to produce an additional 4 million gallons a day.

Design work to extend several water mains along 167th and Moonlight Road and along Madison and Center Street has been completed. These two projects, scheduled for construction in 2005, will join gaps in the existing system, increasing the pressure and supply to the areas.

(Continued on page 3)

Keeping Tabs on Change in 2004



In 2004, the City of Gardner welcomed nearly 2,000 new residents to the community. It is believed there are around 16,000 people that now call Gardner home. Just five years ago that number was less than 10,000.

In 2004, the City annexed an additional 606 acres into its corporate limits, installed 5.3 miles of new street, 8.8 miles of new wastewater lines, 3.63 miles of new stormsewer, 5.8 miles of water lines, 9.5 miles of new underground electric distribution line, 1 mile of overhead line rebuilt, and 75 new street lights were added to the system. There are currently twenty-two subdivisions with housing construction occurring within Gardner. Permits for single family home construction rose from 353 in 2003 to 430 in 2004. In 2005, new neighbors will continue to come to Gardner in record numbers.

The Mayor's Message



Dear Residents,

Greetings for a great 2005! Gardner is looking forward to an exciting year, with many important projects already underway. There was much accomplished in 2004 and we anticipate the same will be true in 2005. Our community is very fortunate to have a dedicated City Council and staff working hard to make sure Gardner is moving steadily to its solid future, while continuing to provide quality service and infrastructure.

This year, Gardner will see the beginning of construction of Wal-Mart, which will be located at Cedar Niles Road and East Santa Fe. The rezoning was approved for Wal-Mart by the Johnson County Board of Commissioners in December. This development will include a 159,000 sq. ft. Wal-Mart Super Center with grocery and other retail and restaurant sites. Wal-Mart is scheduled to open its doors to Gardner residents sometime in mid-2006.

Additionally, there are other pivotal projects underway in Gardner that will provide expanded choices for shopping and dining. At the northeast corner of Main Street and Moonlight Road, two new developments have broken ground. New Century Plaza, which houses a First Kansas Bank branch and the rising Bob and Dee's Restaurant. This space also will see further activity with the available space for additional retail and commercial development. Moonlight Commons Centre is the second development comprising 29,600 sq. ft. of restaurant, retail and commercial space located just north of New Century Plaza on the north side of Lincoln Lane. This area will also be home to new office and warehouse space. Likewise, the area near Cedar Niles and 56 Highway will welcome an Arby's Restaurant, an expansion of McDonald's and the addition of retail space-Santa Fe Shops.

I hope you enjoy all that Gardner has to offer in 2005 and I wish you a very joyous and prosperous new year!

Sincerely,

Community Calendar

Monday, Jan. 17
City Offices Closed
Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Tuesday, Jan. 18
City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
Moved due to Holiday

Gardner Historical Museum
Jan.—Victorian Christmas
Feb.—Kansas Day Display
Hours: Saturday—Tuesday from
1—4 p.m.
Or by appt.—856-4447

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A Look Back at 2004 and What is Upcoming in 2005, cont.

Wastewater Utility

The Wastewater facilities plan was finished in June 2004 and set the service boundaries, recommended interceptor sewer, lift stations and treatment plant improvements for the next twenty years. The plan is based on 500 new service connections per year. This same information was also used by the electric generation study and the water study to calculate future demand.

Replacement of the old East Lift Station is underway and will be completed in 2005. This new wastewater pumping station will provide the necessary capacity for the growth in eastern Gardner.

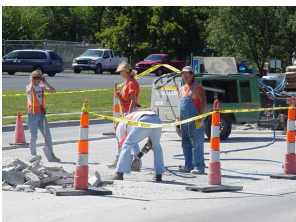
The North Lift Station Project began in 2004 and will be completed in 2005. The project will replace 3,000 ft. of wastewater line, remove the former North Lift Station at Colleen Drive and North Center Street, and will install a new lift station north of 167th Street on Gardner Road. This station will service the growth to the northern portions of Gardner.

A sanitary wastewater relief project between Washington Street and Brookside Park was completed. The project increased capacity and will prevent future back ups.

The Grand Street wastewater relief project was engineered in 2004 and the project is scheduled for construction in 2005.

Streets

The project to widen North Center Street began in 2004.



The bridge box at 167th was replaced and new stormwater pipe is being installed. The project, including the street widening, installation of pedestrian paths, street lighting and landscaping should be completed late summer to early fall 2005.

The Park Street rehabilitation project was also completed in 2004. A new asphalt street was laid, curb and gutters were installed to eliminate the former open ditches, and sidewalks were installed.

Engineering work for the Main Street and Moonlight Road intersection is in progress and will continue in 2005.

Surveying work to reconstruct the downtown sidewalk system was completed in December 2004. New sidewalks will be installed in 2005.

Parks and Recreation

Gardner has been following the Parks Master Plan to improve and expand the existing parks system.

- Developed master plan for Cottage Creek/Pumpkin

Ridge Park, which will be developed in 2005;

- Developed concept for future sport complex, a 40-acre site will be purchased in early 2005 using the special Johnson County Sales Tax approved by voters in 2003;
- Purchased land for future expansion of the Gardner Swimming Pool;
- Replaced playgrounds at Brookside and Meadowbrook Parks;
- Replaced bleachers, backstops and a swing set at Westside Park and will continue the improvements in 2005 with parking lot and fence replacement;
- Replaced two picnic shelters at Gardner Lake and began work on third shelter, which will be completed in 2005, and performed tree trimming at the lake park;
- Replaced Santa's Workshop giving the children of Gardner a merry place to tell Santa their wishes;
- Won the Ellis Gold Medal Award for swimming facility safety;
- Designated as Tree City USA for efforts to expand and maintain Gardner's tree population.



Public Safety

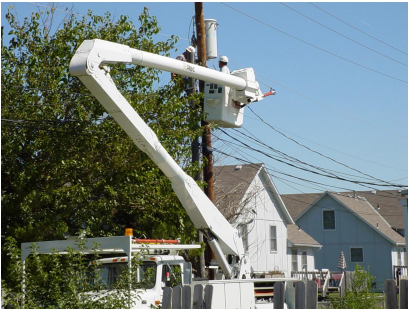
- Hired its first animal control officer;
- Added an additional Public Safety Officer;
- Began a traffic enforcement team to better police traffic activities throughout the community;
- Identified a location for a new fire station to be designed in 2005 and opened in 2006.



The following were also part of the 2004 successes for the City of Gardner:

- Added two new hanger buildings to house aircraft that fly in and out of the "best little airport in Kansas";
- Added a new position of Assistant Court Clerk to keep up with increasing caseloads;
- Added an additional building inspector, wastewater plant operator and electric lineman to help better serve the growing community;
- Started credit card payment options for many City services;
- Implemented two additional editions of the "News from the City of Gardner" to help keep you better informed through the year. You now receive this publication six times a year, instead of four!

Gardner Seeks to Improve Electric Reliability in Manor Area



The electric circuit serving the Manor area, from Grand Street to Cherokee Street and Center Street to Oak Street, is the source of many of the City's concerns about reliability. This aging overhead circuit is susceptible to intermittent outages. In response, the City has installed a monitor to record the circuit's performance. This data will assist the City in identifying the circuit's problems and develop an improvement plan. It is anticipated that reconstruction of the major overhead circuit within the Manor subdivision may be necessary, as well as the continued installation of "squirrel guards" on pole mounted transformers, and improvements to circuit's fusing coordination. The City has installed squirrel guards on nearly 50% of the pole mounted transformers in the Manor area and transferred the Sherman Lakes subdivision to another circuit to reduce the impact of "blinks" on the Manor circuit.

The City also has an annual tree trimming program that minimize the incidence of tree-related outages to the entire community. This year's program will concentrate on the area containing the Manor Circuit. For further information, contact Ken Arnold, Electric Division Manager, at 856-7256 or 856-0914.

Schedule of Public Meetings **(120 E. Main Street)**

City Council Regular Meetings

1st and 3rd Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Council Work Session

2nd Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

Planning Commission Regular Meetings

2nd Monday of the month at 8:00 p.m. and 4th Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Gardner Municipal Court

2nd Tuesday of the month and the Wednesday following the 2nd Tuesday and the 4th Wednesday of the month (All court sessions begin at 6:00 p.m.)

Website Address

www.gardnerkansas.com

Visit the City's website at www.gardnerkansas.com

If you would like to receive City Council Meeting Agendas via email send your request to sschultz@gardnerkansas.com

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